National Security Advisor's visit to China

124. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether our National Security Advisor has visited Beijing for talks on border issues in November, 2004;

(b) if so, the outcome of the visit; and

(c) whether any understanding or agreement on security matters has been reached between the two countries during his visit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes. The National Security Advisor visited Beijing for the fourth meeting of the Special Representatives of the Governments of India and China on the Boundary Question held on November 18-19, 2004.

(b) and (c) The meeting between the National Security Advisor and the Chinese Vice Foreign Minister, Mr. Dai Bingguo, Special Representative of India and China respectively, was held in a friendly, constructive and cooperative atmosphere. The exchange of views was frank and detailed. The two sides agreed to hold the next meeting in New Delhi at a mutually convenient date.

Japan's Support to Get Permanent Seat in Security Council

†125. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that beside a number of other matters, the Foreign Ministers of India and Japan have agreed to provide help to each other for acquiring permanent membership of United Nations Security Council during the discussions held on 12th August, 2004 between both the countries; and

(b) if so, the names of developing and developed countries which have, in addition to Japan supported India on the said issue during the annual meeting of General Assembly of United Nations in 2004?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes. During the visit of Japanese Foreign Minister, Ms. Yoriko Kawaguchi, to India on August 12, 2004, India and Japan agreed that they "based on the firmly-shared recognition that both counries are legitimate candidates for the permanent membership of the Security Council in the light of the current realities of the international community, will support each other's candidature, and make utmost efforts and closely work together towards realising the reform " of the Security Council."

(b) A large number of leaders from various countries in their speeches both at the UN General Assembly as well as during the discussions in the relevant committee on the subject, referred to the necessity of UN institutional reforms, the expansion of the Security Council, the inclusion of new permanent members and India's credentials in this regard. Since such support is expressed in different forms, it is difficult to give a definitive number on countries which have specifically supported India.

Attacks on Tamil Fishermen

126.SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government took up the issue of attack on Tamil fishermen by the Sri Lankan Army/Navy with the Sri Lankan President during her visit to India in November, 2004;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received any assurance from the Sri Lankan President to put an end to the attack on Tamil fishermen by the authorities of Sri Lankan Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E!AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The problems being faced by Indian fishermen straying in advertently across the International Maritime Boundary Line to fish in Sri Lankan waters were taken up by Prime Minister and External Affairs Minister during their meetings with the president of Sri Lanka.